

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Of the many Matsuura family members who contributed to this book, I should like to thank, first of all, Toyo's sister Nakamura Tami. In addition to being a consummate hostess and longtime friend, she has been a valuable informant and expeditor. Her sisters, Ishiwata Mina, Akakura Fuki, Sugai Fumi, and Tsukioka Yasu, gave generously of their time to relate their childhood memories. Toyo's sister-in-law Matsuura Masako, the widow of her brother Yūshirō, graciously hosted me on three separate occasions when I visited the family's natal village in Fukushima prefecture on research trips. Toyo's granddaughter Kazuno Reiko accompanied me on the first trip; Toyo's daughter, Horiuchi Yōko, was my guide on the second; and Nakamura Tami accompanied me on the third. Yōko often served not only as my guide but also as my hostess, informant, and research assistant, and she generously lent me old family photographs. Other family members too numerous to mention pitched in to help in ways too varied to recount. They photocopied Japanese documents, mailed books related to my research, provided relevant newspaper articles, and patiently answered my endless questions.

One of the challenging aspects of interviewing people about their lives is knowing which questions to ask. Toyo's sisters did not see how their life stories might contribute to my research, and at times I had to tease information out of them. Thinking that their roles as wives and mothers were unworthy of academic exploration, they gave limited answers at first. Once, one of the sisters began talking about how she and her children fled Russians in Manchuria in 1945. When I probed further, she seemed puzzled. "Is this what you are interested in?" she asked and then added, "If that's the case, my husband knows more about it than I do." The next day she brought me an article her husband had published on coal exploration in Manchuria in the 1930s.

On one occasion all five of Toyo's remaining sisters willingly gathered around the lunch table at her house, where Yōko now lived, for the stated purpose of answering my questions. Yōko took out family photographs to help jog their memories, but they all talked at once on different topics. One sister expressed concern that I would not be able to weave the fragments of their conversation into a meaningful narrative. Yet, they seemed reluctant to speak one at a time, perhaps fearful of hogging the limelight. My best interview material came at unexpected times—for example, when somebody who was getting ready to leave suddenly remembered a telling anecdote about her father, or when a chance comment in a restaurant led to a vivid recollection.

Information on the early history of the Matsuura family and their village derives largely from written sources. In addition to Isami's family chronicle, I benefited from the work of Asakawa township's local historian, Kawaoto Shōhei, who compiled a multivolume history of the region in which the Matsuura figured prominently. When I first met Kawaoto in 1993, he was in possession of over five hundred handwritten documents from the Tokugawa period (1600–1868), borrowed from the Matsuura family house in the village of Yamashiraishi. Matsuura materials are more numerous than those of any other family in the Asakawa area, especially for the Tokugawa period, and even include records of daily visitors to the house. Kawaoto rendered some of these documents into modern Japanese for inclusion in the three-volume *Asakawa chōshi* (History of Asakawa Township). He graciously shared information with me on two separate meetings in 1993 and in 1995.

Primary sources for Asakawa are also contained in the two-volume *Shishin shōbanshō* (History of All Memorable Events), published by the Asakawa Town Hall. For the history of Fukushima prefecture, I consulted several prefectural histories and reference works, including Kobayashi Seiji and Yamada Akira, *Fukushima-ken no rekishi* (A History of Fukushima Prefecture), volume 7, and the *Kadokawa Nihon chimei daijiten* (Kadokawa Encyclopedia of Japanese Notables), volume 7.

Written primary sources on the family for the post-Tokugawa period, in addition to Isami's chronicle, come from the published memoir of Isami's second son, Kōjirō: *Indoneshia sanjūnen* (Indonesia: Thirty Years); the memoir of his brother-in-law Ishii Itarō: *Gaikōkan no issbō* (The Lifetime of a Diplomat); and letters I received from Matsuura family members. My memories of the family, fortified by slides, photographs, and journal entries of

my own during the forty-year period from 1963 and 2003, were especially useful for the chapters covering that period in the book.

Interviews with family members and with people who knew the family supplemented written sources. Kawazaki Fumio, the priest of Chōtoku Temple, the Zen Buddhist temple in Yamashiraishi, and two former Matsuura house servants were kind enough to talk to me about their memories of the family. The thirteenth-generation househead, Matsuura Tomoji, on three separate occasions allowed me to tour the family's large house, take pictures, and look through family photograph albums.

I also wish to acknowledge Toyo's longtime friend Ibuka Yuriko, who, with her husband, helped me to fill in details about Toyo's life in Manchuria, and Toyo's classmates Sugiura Sugako and Shiba Miyoko, who recounted memories of her from their school days at Freedom School.

At the University of Arizona, I relied greatly on my diligent and resourceful research assistant, Fujie Aldrich. Also providing translation assistance for difficult Tokugawa texts was Yukiko Kawahara. Additional research assistance came from Yuri Nakamura and Shizuko Radbill. The genealogical chart is the work of Tim Jefferson. Loretta Sowers read portions of the manuscript to provide feedback as an avid history buff. Millard Ladd Keith III gave me a valuable sense of audience, reading with the eyes of an undergraduate, albeit an exceptionally perceptive one. My longtime friend Carl Tomizuka, as always, served as both a sympathetic sounding board for my ideas and a source of information, drawing on his personal memories of Japan, his broadly based education, and his familiarity with contemporary Japanese society to contribute to my research.

My gratitude to Anne Walthall is immense for her close reading of an early draft of the first part of this manuscript and for her encouragement. I also profited greatly from James L. McClain's clear and concrete suggestions for revising the manuscript; he put a great deal of time and effort into the task. I also wish to thank the anonymous reader of the University of California Press for thoughtful, tactful, and sensitive comments and editor Scott Norton for his sage advice and detailed recommendations. Sheila Levine, as always, offered her special brand of encouragement, practical assistance, professional expertise, and patience.

The necessary funding for this project came from the Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies (1993) and the American Philosophical Society (1993 and 1995). A Research Professorship from the Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Institute in the spring semester of 1995

and a research leave in the fall semester of 2003 released me from my teaching duties. Additional funding for research assistance from the Department of History of the University of Arizona was especially helpful in the later stages of manuscript preparation.

My brother, Irwin F. Bernstein, was a lifelong supporter of my work and expected to receive a copy of every book I have published. I thank him posthumously; he died days before I completed the final draft of this manuscript.

I have lost count of the number of versions of this book edited in red pencil by Michael Patrick Sullivan. His contribution in the form of editorial suggestions, technical assistance, unflagging enthusiasm, moral support, and behind-the-scenes help through all stages of this publication, and all of my previous ones as well, is impossible to repay, but I have tried to do so in some small measure by dedicating this book to him.